Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A fluid-assisted electrosurgical scissors to treat tissue, the scissors comprising:

an end effector comprising a first blade member and a second blade member, the first blade member and the second blade member pivotally connected and arranged to cut tissue;

at least one of the first blade member and the second blade member electrically coupled to an electrical connector connectable to a radio frequency power source;

the first blade member comprising a first blade member shearing edge extending to a distal end of the first blade member and the second blade member comprising a second blade member shearing edge extending to a distal end of the second blade member;

the first blade member comprising a first blade member distal portion, the second blade member comprising a second blade member distal portion, wherein ~~and~~ at least one of the distal portions further comprises a bulbous portion protruding from the blade member, the bulbous portion being on an exterior side of the blade member proximally adjacent the distal end of the blade member, and the bulbous portion having an exposed electrically-conductive surface;

a fluid passage in fluid communication with at least one fluid outlet; and

the at least one fluid outlet positioned to expel a fluid to the end effector and obstructed from contact with tissue by at least one of the blade members.

20. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 are monopolar electrosurgical scissors.

21. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 are laparoscopic electrosurgical scissors.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the first blade member comprises a first blade member exterior surface;

the second blade member comprises a second blade member exterior surface; and

at least one of the first blade member exterior surface and the second blade member exterior surface at least partially comprises an electrically insulative material.

24. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the first blade member comprises a first blade member shearing surface;

the second blade member comprises a second blade member shearing surface; and

the first blade member shearing surface and the second blade member shearing surface face one another when the first blade member and the second blade member are in a closed position.

25. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 further comprising:

an elongated shaft;

a lumen located within the shaft; and

the lumen providing a portion of the fluid passage.

26. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 further comprising:

an elongated shaft; and

the at least one fluid outlet is located within the shaft.

27. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 further comprising:

a push rod;

a lumen located within the push rod; and

the lumen providing a portion of the fluid passage.

28. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the fluid passage passes through a connector member which couples the blade members to a push rod.

29. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the at least one fluid outlet is provided by a connector member which couples the blade members and a push rod.

30. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

at least one of the blade members is curved.

31. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the first blade member comprises a first blade member exterior surface;

the second blade member comprises a second blade member exterior surface; and

at least one of the exterior surfaces is configured to slide along tissue while the exterior surface is coupled adjacent the tissue with a fluid expelled from the fluid outlet and radio frequency power is provided to the tissue from the scissors.

32. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 31 wherein:

at least one of the exterior surfaces is further configured such that the fluid expelled from the fluid outlet forms a localized fluid coupling between a surface of the tissue and the exterior surface when the exterior surface is located adjacent the surface of the tissue.

33.-38. (Cancelled).

39. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the first blade member distal portion and the second blade member distal portion each comprise a bulbous portion protruding from the blade member.

40. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the bulbous portion protrudes from a convex side of the blade member.

41. (Previously presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the bulbous portion is spherical.

42. (Currently amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 41 wherein:

the exposed electrically-conductive surface of the spherical bulbous portion ~~has an electrically conductive~~ is a spherical surface.

43. (Currently amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the bulbous portion extending outwardly away from the exterior side of the blade member, the exterior side being opposite of ~~is on an exterior surface of the blade member~~

~~which opposes~~ an interior side of the blade member, the interior side having a shearing surface.

44. (New) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the at least one fluid outlet is further positioned to provide fluid adjacent each side of at least one of the shearing edges.